

The Sydney Herald.

NO. 8108.—VOL. XLIX.

FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 1864.

PRICE THREEPENCE.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS OF THE "SYDNEY MORNING HERALD."

The price of this Journal when delivered by Agents will be as heretofore—£4 per annum. In order to share with our distant Subscribers as far as possible, the burden of the new postage tax (£1 6s.), the price of the *Herald* when sent prepaid through the Post Office on and after this date, will be £4 10s. per annum.

The Subscribers to this Journal who can only be reached by post, and who wish to decline on account of the advance in price, will be good enough to give early intimation of their intention, and pay up all arrears forthwith.

Those Subscribers whose accounts are overdue are respectfully requested to pay them forthwith, to prevent trouble and expense. *Herald Office, Sydney, 1st April.*

BIRTH.

On the 2nd instant, at Tivoli, Rose Bay, the Hon. Mrs. Louis Hope, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 30th April, at Rockhampton, by the Rev. J. Kelly, Adam Davidson, second son of Davidson, 343, M.D., Aberdeen, Scotland, to Cecilia, second daughter of the late William Taylor, Esq., of Edinburgh, New South Wales.

On the 25th May, by the Rev. Dr. Street, Samuel Brown, Esq., of Adelaide, to the daughter of the late Mr. John Maitland, Esq., of Sydney. On the 26th May, by the Rev. Dr. Street, William Green, Esq., of Melbourne, Victoria, to the daughter of the late Mr. James Green, Esq., of Sydney. On the 27th May, by the Rev. Dr. Street, John Maitland, Esq., of Sydney, to the daughter of the late Mr. James Maitland, Esq., of Sydney.

DEATHS.

On the 2nd April, at George Street, Sydney, of George E. Mackay, late of Lambing Bay, son of the late Mr. Mackay, of Ballarat, aged 32 years.

On the 10th May, at Yalland, George River, of typhoid fever, William Patterson, second son of the late George Thomas Patterson, Esq., of Melbourne, aged 23 years.

On the 14th May, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 15th May, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 16th May, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 17th May, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 18th May, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 19th May, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 20th May, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 21st May, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 22nd May, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 23rd May, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 24th May, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

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On the 28th May, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

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On the 31st May, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 1st June, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 2nd June, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 3rd June, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 4th June, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 5th June, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 6th June, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 7th June, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 8th June, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 9th June, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 10th June, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 11th June, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 12th June, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

On the 13th June, at the residence, 145, Burton-street, Darlinghurst, Mr. William Bickel, builder, aged 39 years.

SHIP ADVERTISEMENTS.

ILLAWARRA S. N. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.

WOLLONGONG, ILLAWARRA, TO-NIGHT, at 11.

KIAMA, ILLAWARRA, TO-NIGHT, at 11.

FRIDAY, ILLAWARRA, TO-NIGHT, at 11.

ULADULLA, KEMBLA, ON MONDAY, at 1 p.m.

CLYDE RIVER, KEMBLA, ON MONDAY, at 1 p.m.

MORUYA, KEMBLA, ON MONDAY, at 1 p.m.

MEMBULA, HUNTER, ON WEDNESDAY, at 10 a.m.

EDEN (TWO-FOLD BAY), HUNTER, ON WEDNESDAY, at 10 a.m.

WOONGA, STEAMER, ON THURSDAY, at noon.

TURONS RIVER, STEAMER, ON THURSDAY, 10th instant.

PARRAMATTA STEAMERS—THREE TIMES DAILY.

These fast steamers ply daily as follows:

From PARRAMATTA, at 7 a.m., and 1 and 5 p.m.

From PARRAMATTA, at 7 and 11 a.m., and 3 p.m.

On SUNDAY, 9 a.m., PARRAMATTA, 4 p.m.

Return tickets, 2d. 6d. cable—1s. 6d. steerage.

Below only NINEPENCE EACH WAY.

THE AUSTRALIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S STEAMERS.

TO MELBOURNE—WONGA WONGA, TUESDAY AFTERNOON, at 4.

TO MELBOURNE—COONABARA, TO-MORROW NIGHT, SATURDAY, at 11; and COLLARBOY, MONDAY NIGHT, at 11.

TO MANNING RIVER—SAM-OH, TO-MORROW MORNING, SATURDAY, at 11.

TO BRISBANE—EAGLE, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, at 4. Free goods only.

TO BRISBANE—TELEGRAPH, MONDAY AFTERNOON, at 4.

TO MARYBOROUGH, via BRISBANE—EAGLE, TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, at 11.

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SHIP ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOR SALE OR CHARTER, the fine clipper brig CRAIGHEAR, C. B. BOND, 64, Sussex-street.

FOR FREIGHT OR CHARTER, the clipper brig BROWN MARY MILLER, carrying 400 tons, S. L. BROWN, commander.

FOR SALE, the clipper brig GEORGE ST JULIETTE, 400 tons English measurement, and now discharging 400 tons cargo from Calcutta; built at St. Malo in 1856 of oak, and newly coppered in December last. Intending purchasers are invited to inspect her while now discharging at Botch Wharf. Full particulars can be obtained from the undersigned, or Captain FAIRB, on board, where Lloyd's certificates and classification can also be inspected. S. A. JOSEPH, 249, George-street.

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A DAY ON A CORAL REEF.

(By M. F. in the Christian Spectator.)

"Gentle, calm, bright, and clear," said the second mate to me, one hot February morning, as I stood by the gangway in my hunting costume, that is, in a suit of clothes much too far gone to suffer any more harm from sea-water, with a large puffing moustache slung over my shoulder. Those most intelligent of earth's creatures, the mercantile mariners, have invented the term "curio" for objects of natural history, believing that only a childish prodigious curiosity could lead man to gather such things. Yes, I was going curio-hunting, and with a naval officer as companion pushed off in the jolly-boat. After a short sail the keel grated on coral ground, and we jumped ashore.

Coral reefs differ in appearance and structure in different parts of the world. Ours was of a kind that I imagine an oblong island, as flat as a dining table, some few acres in area, sunk about two feet under the level of low water, with a heap of stones and sand about the size of a coach towards the southern end, and a line of breakers washing the northern end. Such our coral reef seemed to be as we first stepped on to it.

Placing our provisions on the dry stone-heap, we began to walk towards the breakers, where we knew the greatest abundance of animal life would be found. It was a splendid, calm, hot day, not a cloud in the sky, not a sound in the air, hardly a ripple on the sea. We were walking on a kind of macadamized pavement made of dead coral (for a reef such as ours the living coral is found only at the edges, save a few small pieces scattered here and there, covered with a mud of crushed coral and broken shells). Fishes darted before us as we went along. Every now and then there is a tremendous hubbub in front at our feet, and a great ray-fish, about the size of a tea-tray, flees from our presence. We tread on something hard, and stooping down pick up a mollusk, creeping along in the mud. Dirty little crabs, covered with crown mud and crusted over with seaweeds. But a little careful cleaning will soon bring out its beauty, for it is not a thing to be despised.

This muddy pavement, however, has few charms for us; it is the edge we want to be at. So we hasten forward till the little coral bushes get thicker and closer together, and their colours grow brighter, and the muddy pavement broken up into white patches, and the water is shallow, and the patches get smaller and smaller, and at last we stand hardly ankle-deep on a carpet of living creatures, bright with every hue under the sun—a carpet only a few feet wide, and beyond is the edge. Standing on the edge we look down upon a steep wall, reaching towards a bottom that is beyond our ken, though in that clear blue sea we can see for forty feet or more. And such a wall! A battlement of living coral, bush upon bush, spreading, shooting, stretching in all fantastic forms and in all beautiful colours,—delicate shades of green, richest of browns, purples of blues, lowest of pinks. And there hang from these soft festoons and waving banners of skeleton-less polyps, still more bright and glorious in hue, gently swaying with the current's flow, while in and out their fairy caves glide shining parrot-fishes, clothed in green and gold, and round coral-fishes, banded like a rainbow. Can you wonder that we sat down in the water and greedily filled our eyes with the sight?

But alas! all these things were beyond our reach, and though we could admire, our object was to rob. So after a while we turned to the strip of living carpet beneath our feet. What was it made up of? In the first place, there were a goodly number of sea-anemones of many sorts and sizes; some firm and leathery, others soft and pulpy; some as small as a pea, and others, magnificent glossy fellows, measuring nearly two feet across when open. There were a few sea-weeds, but not many, and those mostly of delicate kinds. The greater part of the space was taken up with living corals and soft-bodied polyps. What are polyps like? Very much like a group of anemones all grown together. If you look at a sea-anemone carefully, you will observe on the outside a number of arms or tentacles, which the animal can put out or draw in at pleasure; in the inside a little bag, with its bottom knocked out, which serves as a stomach, and a number of partitions stretching from the sides towards the centre, so as to divide the body into a number of little separate boxes, very much like the inside of a poppy head. These tentacles, this bag-like stomach, and these partitions, are the great characteristics of the class of animals to which the sea-anemone belongs. All the soft-bodied polyps begin life as little creatures of this kind. After a while, however, there comes a little swelling on one side, which growing bigger, gets peculiar little dints and knobs on it; then becomes hollowed out, and has all the little knobs set round it like a crown. In due time the little knobs become arms, the hollow a stomach, and in fine the swelling gets changed into a new creature, growing out of the side of its mother, just as a branch is budded off from a trunk. Other swellings take place, other creatures grow out. These young ones again throw out in turn buds of their own, and so after the process has been carried on for some time we get a number of anemones all growing on to one common trunk as leaves and branches grow on to a tree. And as there is a great variety in the arrangement of the branches and leaves of a tree, so polyps differ not only in the form and appearance of the little creatures themselves, in the shape of the mouths, the number, size, colour, &c., of the tentacles and partitions, but also in the way in which they are planted on the common trunk. They may have thin, slender, straggling branches, with only here and there a mouth with its arms and stomach; or they may be massed up in a lump with the mouths all squeezed together like the holes in a sieve. They may grow up straight and tall like a plant, or they may spread out flat like a moss. The little mouths with their expanded tentacles scattered here and there over the animal remind one irresistibly of flowers, and their owners seem to take delight in mocking the vegetable kingdom. Not a few are like mushrooms or these larger fungi that grow on trees; only they seem to have been pricked with a star-dust of gold or blue or green. Imagine the ground strewn with animals of this kind, of all possible forms and colours—was not that a carpet for a king to tread upon?

But besides the soft-bodied polyps there were corals. What are corals? Houses built by the coral insects? Yes, that is the coral insect. Animals in all chief points exactly like polyps, and that one point in which they are hard-bodied and not soft-bodied. Imagine a sea-anemone to become petrified, its sides and partitions all changed into stone. Let the mouth, stomach, and tentacles however remain soft, and let there be a film of slimy flesh covering the stony parts, inside and out, like a very thin skin, you will

now get some idea of a single coral. Imagine the soft-bodied polyp to become petrified, all the flexible stems and branches becoming rigid and stony, with just a thin film all over as before, and the mouths with their stomachs and tentacles of course left as flesh, and you have a compound coral. It is a common idea that the coral animal lives in a cell that it has built, and may be seen looking out of the top of it, very much like a chimney sweep rejoicing in his strength at the top of a chimney. The truth is, however, that the head and arms of a sweep, but nothing more of him except his skin tightly stretched over a blocked up chimney. The bricks should be inside him, for the hard parts of the corals are certainly inside them.

The coral insect is a polyp, a kind of sea-anemone, and it builds not its house but its own stony skeleton. The coral that is seen in the museum or the cabinet, though now quite white (the red coral is a different kind of thing) was once clothed with a thin skin of coloured flesh and from its many star-like mouths were once alternately thrust forth and drawn back little mouths, each of which owned a stomach and was proud of a crown of tentacles. Like their brethren the soft-bodied polyps, the corals are of many forms. Some are branched, either tenderly or delicately, as in a stout, rough, spreading way. Some are heaped up together in a solid lump like a piece of rock. Sometimes the trunk which bears the little mouths is the most striking part of the animal, as in the greater number of the branched species. Sometimes there are a great many tolerably large mouths and stomachs crowded together on a short trunk. In these cases the stony partitions round each stomach are the most marked features of the whole. Sometimes, as in the brain stone corals, the soft parts grow so fast that the stony parts cannot keep up with them, and all the partitions run into each and produce an appearance like ranges of mountains, as they are drawn on our maps. Diversified in every way, they look beautiful enough in the blanched state in which we have them at home. How much more beautiful are they in their own native colours, seen through the blue water, or glistening in the sunshine on the reef!

When a soft-bodied polyp dies there is an end of it; but the coral-polyp leaves its bones behind, and new comers grow over and extend the dead remains of their ancestors. Growing century after century in the silent seas, one individual coming and another going, each drawing lime from the salt water, and by vital processes fastening it in its flesh; itself perishing, but leaving its work behind, generation after generation taking up and carrying on the task; these little creatures are able to manufacture rocks, to make whole islands, to add great pieces to continents, to do things that always have been and always will be a marvel to man. And yet all that they have done has been done within narrow limits. They cannot exist in such profusion as to form reefs, except in warm latitudes, within about thirty degrees north and south of the equator. They cease, for the most part, to live too at a depth below fifty fathoms, and a few hours' exposure out of water is enough to kill them. How is it, then, that their remains have been found on the top of high mountains, and brought up from the depths of the sea? Geologists tell us that the only way to explain this matter is to suppose (and the idea is supported by many other facts), that the tops of mountains were once below the sea, and the deep parts of the sea were once either dry land or just beneath the surface of the water. Mr. Darwin, in his book on Coral Reefs, explains how a belt of living coral, stretching round a piece of land, and reaching from just below low water to about fifty fathoms deep, will keep pace with the rising or sinking land, building a crust of coral, which in the one case is continually growing downwards, in the other, upwards.

A coral reef is always a home for many other creatures besides those which have been mentioned, and my friend and I commenced our search for them, treading as we went, not without compunction, on the carpet of polyps. Shell-fish were there in abundance; some dirty-looking and covered with weeds and other incrustations, others like the cowrie, as bright and clean as when seen on the mantel-piece. The shell-less mollusks were not wanting. One of the most curious structures we saw was a slug rather bigger than a man's hand, and a bell of a pure white, and a back of resplendent vermilion, and at one end a crown of white feathers tinted and edged with red. Would you not admit such a slug to be a beauty? Of divers kinds of small crabs we took little notice, but we carried off all the star-fishes we could find, especially those whose arms were so much branched that the creature looked like a knot of the Gorgon's locks. Hiding underneath pieces of coral we found sea-urchins, and we made much of one of a deep maroon colour, with spines as thick as your little finger. Every now and then we heard behind us a noise as if some one had suddenly stepped into the water, and turning round, saw that some great clam-shell had suddenly shot up its jaws, and thrown up into the air a jet of water two feet high. In the little sandy hollows between the bushes of coral, huge sea-cucumbers lolled about, busy as usual in their wonderful task of eating sand. Little fishes darted about hither and thither, and as the current ebbed and flowed over the reef, tender transparent jelly fishes floated and flapped about, some so delicate that we first became aware of their presence by seeing their shadow cast on the bottom where it was white and sandy. All these things were visible to the unaided eye, but the water teemed besides with microscopic creatures, and the weeds and the polyps and the corals were covered and pierced and crowded with them. They were sand full of the shells of tiny animals, the foraminifera, such as in bygone ages built the pyramids. As it was, we were quite content with what we could see, filling our jars, our pockets, our bags, and at last our hands; and sitting down on the dry heap at the other end of the reef, had our lunch. And after lunch, we went to it again, and when we could pick up no more, we waded about frightening fish, and shooting porpoises, and talking about everything under the waters and above the waters, and especially about the discomforts of living in vessels that float upon the waters, until the sun went down far into a glory beyond the distant hills, not far from the place where Pharaoh was drowned and all his host, and the signal from the ship told us that the skipper had ordered the jolly-boat back.

WHERE THE FAULT LIES.—"Great brother," said the moon to the sun, "why is it that, while you never hide your face from me, my poor sister the earth so often opens in dimness and obscurity?" "Little Sister," replied the sun, "the fault is not in me. You always behold me as I am, and rejoice in my light, but you too often cover yourself with thick clouds, which even I cannot effectually penetrate, and while she moves my shadow ought to know that I am ever near, and only for her clouds to pass that I may reveal myself."

FRIENDS AND FOES AT MAKETU.

(From the Daily Southern Cross, May 14.)

The following notes by our Special Correspondent, were prepared for publication some time ago, but have been unfortunately held over owing to the pressure of more exciting details.

In a former communication from Maketu I promised to describe the positions occupied by the conflicting forces at that place at the time of my visit, and when doing so may as well briefly recapitulate the general features of the country between Maketu and Tauranga. Leaving Tauranga, there is a straight line of sandy beach between the South Head and Maketu of about sixteen miles, terminating in a spit which forms the North Head of Maketu harbour. The main body of the North Head is about sixty yards in width at all tide, but owing to the bar and the sunken rocks inside, only a very limited channel is open for navigation even at flood tide. Yachts and the lighted dragoons, sailed by men well acquainted with the coast, can venture on the passage with safety. A high bluff, projecting for a long way seaward, rises close by the mouth of the Maketu River on the south, and the high land extends in width for nearly a couple of miles to the Waikato River, where it terminates in a steep cliff. The land between Tauranga and Maketu, lying between the wooded range and the sea line, is undulating, but towards Maketu it becomes marshy, from the accumulated drainage of the high land at the back, the outlets of which are Maketu and Waikato rivers; and as the channel of the former has shifted of late years (the old entrance being silted up), it may be said to be the natural drainage of the whole of the best. The high land is a very fertile belt between the two harbours, but the flat, as it is called, is marshy, from the cause already mentioned. Generally, the high land about Maketu is less productive than that about Tauranga.

The friendly natives at Maketu live in a large fortified pa, on the sea face of the bluff already mentioned, and overlooking the harbour. The pa is a large, well-constructed defensive work, but although this is well to a greater extent than appears at first sight, there are defects which a closer inspection reveals. The pa is a large, well-constructed defensive work, but although this is well to a greater extent than appears at first sight, there are defects which a closer inspection reveals. The pa is a large, well-constructed defensive work, but although this is well to a greater extent than appears at first sight, there are defects which a closer inspection reveals.

Next day I visited the pa, and had a look at as much of the country around as Europeans might safely walk on—and that, certainly, was not a wide area. The pa is a large, well-constructed defensive work, but although this is well to a greater extent than appears at first sight, there are defects which a closer inspection reveals. The pa is a large, well-constructed defensive work, but although this is well to a greater extent than appears at first sight, there are defects which a closer inspection reveals.

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light with the pakahia, and that if they could not beat the troops at Maketu, they would go home. Great was the state of right of the Maketu natives in the Queen's service. They really believed the Ngatiwhakaia and their allies, and took good care not to make more than a show of resistance. They had no arms and ammunition supplied to them, but they did not make a good use of them.

In a former communication from Maketu I promised to describe the positions occupied by the conflicting forces at that place at the time of my visit, and when doing so may as well briefly recapitulate the general features of the country between Maketu and Tauranga.

1. The Aratawa, belonging to Maketu, Rotorua, Waikato, and the southern end of Tauranga Lake, and the neighbourhood of Lake Taupo on its eastern side. About thirty men are at Maketu.

2. The Ngatiwhakaia, belonging to the Waikato and Motu, a small island in Lake Rotorua, and Maketu. About 170 men are at Maketu.

3. The Ngatiwhakaia, belonging to Maketu and Rotorua, and the neighbourhood of Lake Taupo on its eastern side. About thirty men are at Maketu.

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Taking the average of twelve years, therefore, we have in this experiment an increase of exactly one bushel of wheat, with its proportion of straw, for every 5 lb. of ammoniac. I propose, then, to consider this as the yield in the season of average productivity; and adopting this standard to consider a crop good or bad in proportion as it gave more or less than one bushel of wheat, and its proportion of straw, for every 5 lb. of ammoniac used as a manure.

In 1863 the same quantity of straw and ammoniac salts gave a produce of 391 bushels, or an increase of 21 bushels over the average produce with the mineral manure alone. In this experiment, therefore, 5 lb. of ammoniac increased the yield of wheat, and its equivalent of straw, or more than 100 per cent. above the average effect.

On another plot, with the same mineral manure, but with the large amount of 100 lb. of ammoniac applied annually, the average result over twelve years was as follows:—

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